



Introduced Version

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Dan Wheldon.

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_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20121521

2012

SC 2003/DI 84+



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Dan Wheldon.

Whereas, Thirty-three-year-old Dan Wheldon died on Sunday, October 16, 2011, doing what he loved to do;

Whereas, Dan died from injuries he sustained in a fiery, 15-car crash during the season-ending IndyCar race at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon came from a racing family;

Whereas, Born in Emberton, England, where his father was a go-kart racer and his mother was the timer at a local track, Dan began racing go-karts at the age of four;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon burst onto the IndyCar scene as a talented newcomer in 2002, won Rookie of the Year honors in 2003, won his first Indianapolis 500 race just two years later, and was the IndyCar Series champion that same year;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon earned his second Indy 500 crown in 2011 during the 100th year celebration of the "Greatest Spectacle in Racing", becoming only the 18th driver in the history of the race to win it more than once;

Whereas, Although his career was cut tragically short, lasting only eight seasons, Dan posted 134 career starts, collected 26 top-three finishes, 93 top-ten finishes, and five pole positions, and won the Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona;

Whereas, Dan was the driver of the Army National Guard



IndyCar during the 2009 and 2010 seasons, and his popularity among soldiers went well beyond what he accomplished on the track;

Whereas, When he wasn't racing, Dan Wheldon visited soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and veterans hospitals around the country, something he continued to do even after he stopped driving the Army National Guard IndyCar following the 2010 season;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon also served as a spokesperson for the National Guard Youth Challenge Program, which supports at-risk teenagers and young adults around the country;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon was a champion away from the track as well;

Whereas, A strong supporter of the Alzheimer's Association, a cause he championed when his mother developed early onset Alzheimer's in her mid-50s, he added the organization's logo to his car at the Indy 500 to help promote greater awareness of the disease;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon's fun-loving personality made him one of IndyCar's most popular drivers and helped him develop a special bond with fans in Indianapolis and St. Petersburg, Florida, the American cities that he called home;

Whereas, Dan's accomplishments on the racetrack were exceeded only by his love for his family and his devotion to his wife, Susie, and his sons, Sebastian and Oliver;

Whereas, Dan Wheldon represented IndyCar with respect and integrity and will be remembered as a great racer and a kind and giving person; and

Whereas, Dan Wheldon was an outstanding ambassador for the sport of racing, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the city of Indianapolis: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly and the Motor
2 Sports Caucus express their heartfelt sympathy to Susie Wheldon and
3 her children in their hour of grief and acknowledge the many
4 contributions Dan Wheldon made to auto racing and the people of the
5 world. He truly made the world a better place in which to live.

6 SECTION 2. That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the
7 Secretary of the Senate to Dan Wheldon's wife, Susie, his children,
8 Sebastian and Oliver, his parents, and the Indianapolis Motor
9 Speedway.

